

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

November 10, 2014  
1:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. John C. Austin, President  
Mr. Daniel Varner, Secretary (via telephone)  
Dr. Richard Zeile, Treasurer (via telephone)  
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, NASBE Delegate  
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus  
Mrs. Eileen Weiser

Absent: Mr. Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman  
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Vice President

Also Present: Ms. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, Michigan  
Department of Education  
Mr. Jeff Brownlee, Chief Procurement Officer, Michigan  
Department of Technology, Management and Budget  
Ms. Heather Calahan, Proposal Manager, Michigan Department  
of Technology, Management and Budget

**Special Meeting**

- I. Call to Order – 1:30 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda and Order of Priority

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Fecteau, Ramos-Montigny, Straus, Varner,  
Weiser, Zeile  
Absent: Ulbrich**

**The motion carried.**

### III. Discussion/Action Regarding Search for Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Austin said on behalf of the Board, the Department of Technology, Management and Budget issued a request for proposals for professional recruitment services to assist the Board in the search and selection of the next State Superintendent. Mr. Austin said proposals were submitted from Ray and Associates, Inc., and PROACT Search. He said Board members individually reviewed the proposals, and he asked Mr. Brownlee to tabulate the scores assigned to each proposal.

Mr. Brownlee asked if Board members had questions or concerns. Discussion followed.

Mr. Brownlee said the majority of the ranking sheets show a significant gap in favor of Ray and Associates, Inc.

Mr. Austin said Ray and Associates, Inc. show a more fulsome capacity in terms of previous searches, they have forged a partnership with a Michigan resource, and shown an understanding of what is going on in Michigan.

Mr. Austin said the Board has gathered input from the public, which is the first step listed in the proposal.

Mr. Brownlee said the next step normally would be to have the State Board of Education meet the search firm and finalize details.

Mr. Austin said the Attorney General's Office has provided guidance with regard to the search process as it relates to the Open Meetings Act, and he will continue to be in contact with that office.

Following discussion, a motion was made.

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education select Ray and Associates, Inc. to assist the Board with the State Superintendent search, pending negotiation of final details of the contract.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Fecteau, Ramos-Montigny, Straus, Varner,  
Weiser, Zeile  
Absent: Ulbrich**

**The motion carried.**

Discussion followed.

Mr. Austin said the next steps are for Ms. Schneider to work with Mr. Brownlee to schedule a Special meeting between State Board of Education members and representatives of Ray and Associates, Inc. Mr. Austin said he will contact the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Brownlee invited Board members to submit their comments prior to the meeting, so that they may be considered during the discussion.

IV. Public Participation

There were no comments during public participation.

V. Adjournment – 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Varner  
Secretary